

LAURENS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

August 6, 2019 @ 5:30 P.M.

The Laurens County Board of Commissioners held their meeting on Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at 5:30 P.M. Present were, Chairman Trae Kemp, Commissioners Brenda Chain, Kevin Tanner, Jeff Davis, and Jimmy Rogers, County Administrator Bryan Rogers, and County Attorney Billy Kight. Commissioner Jimmy Rogers gave the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first item was the approval of the minutes of the June 26, 2019 rescheduled meeting. Commissioner Brenda Chain made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Commissioner Jimmy Rogers seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The next item was the approval of the TIA Resolution. The Resolution states that the Commissioners are in favor of holding a referendum next year to vote on continuing with the TIA program after it expires in 2022. Kevin Tanner made a motion to approve the TIA Resolution, Brenda Chain seconded. All voted in favor.

The next item was the appointment of Region 5 EMS Council member. Staff recommendation is to appoint John Mabry to the Council replacing Brad Poucher. Mr. Mabry managed Air Evac for several years before coming back to work with Laurens County as a paramedic. He is very knowledgeable of the EMS industry and would make a great appointment. Jimmy Rogers made the motion to appoint John Mabry to the Region 5 EMS Council. Kevin Tanner seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The next item was the approval of the Senior Center contract with Middle Flint Regional Commission. This contract is for our meals on wheels program and stable meals. The Senior Center purchases meals from Middle Flint and the contract is the same with the exception of the meals increasing by 5 cents per meal. Commissioner Trae Kemp made a motion to approve the Middle Flint Regional Commission contract. Commissioner Brenda Chain seconded. All voted in favor.

The next item was the approval of paving bids for Hogan Farm Road, Dupree Lane, Oscar Beacham, and Iris Lowery Subdivision. The only bid submitted was by Dykes and it came in at \$5.71 per SY. Last year we had an average price of \$5.50 per SY. Administrator Bryan Rogers stated he was disappointed in only receiving one bid but knew that many companies were busy with GDOT projects. Kevin Tanner made the motion to approve the triple surface treatment paving bid from Dykes Grassing. Jimmy Rogers seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Last on the agenda was approval of the Fiscal Year 2019 Audit Engagement letter. Thigpen, Jones and Seaton are currently the County auditors and staff is very pleased with their services. Last year they charged the County \$82,800 for the audit. This year they are proposing \$84,000 to perform the audit which includes compliance with the single audit act due to the amount of Federal money we received. Staff recommends that we continue with their services. Trae Kemp made a motion to approve the T.J.S. Deemer, Dana engagement letter for audit services in the amount of \$84,000. Brenda Chain seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Brandi McGonagill from the Laurens County Extension office wanted to let the Board know how much they appreciate the collaboration between the County and The University of Georgia for the Extension office. She also let each person who works for the Extension office introduce themselves and explain what roles they hold in their program area. Mrs. McGonagill also wanted to remind the Board of the need for a new Extension office building.

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

Mrs. Catherine Wood of Forsyth, Georgia runs a rescue in Monroe County, and she stated she was concerned with policies at Laurens County Animal Control. Mrs. Wood would like for more rescues to be able to pull from Animal Control and would like more public access to the animals.

Administrator Bryan Rogers explained that Laurens County Animal Control does allow rescues to come in. The Rescue has to have a valid license with the Department of Agriculture and must call the Animal Control office to set up an appointment.

Betty Rupel, Mrs. Nan Smith, Mr. Chris Mimbs, Mr. Jack Dixon and Mrs. Nancy Dixons all spoke about desiring more access to the animal control kennels.

Ron Harrington, a cedar grove community fireman, discussed with the Commissioners about the long EMS response time to the Cedar grove community. He asked the Board to consider placing an ambulance based at the Rentz Fire Station. He stated the Mayor of Rentz had agreed to provide the station to Laurens County if they would like to base an ambulance there.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.