

The Brooks County Board of Commissioners met for a Special Called Meeting and Work Session on Thursday, September 22, 2022, at 5:15 p.m., at the Brooks County Courthouse, in the Courtroom, located at 100 East Screven Street, Quitman, GA. Commissioners present were: Mr. Patrick Folsom, Chairman, Mr. James Maxwell, Vice Chairman, Ms. Myra Exum, Mr. Willie Cody; and Mr. Lee Larko. Others present were Ms. Jessica McKinney, County Administrator; Ms. Patricia Williams; County Clerk; Ms. Kim Daniels, Human Resources; and Jason Kemp, County Attorney, and various residents.

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman called the meeting to order.

A. Prayer/Pledge – Mr. Larko led all in attendance in prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

B. Dodd Road Culvert Repair – Bid Award – The bid submitted for the Dodd Road Culvert Repair was opened during the Regular Meeting held September 12, 2022. One bid was submitted by Mr. James Warren and Associates with an estimated cost of \$126,602.00 for the culvert repair. There was an error found in the bid estimate, which reduced the cost to \$126,252.00. Administrator informed the Board that restrictions have been lifted on ARPA funds. We should also receive additional funding from the ARPA of \$1.5 million. Administrator recommended using TSPLOST to fund the Dodd Road project. The Board unanimously approved funding from TSPLOST funds the amount of \$126,252.00 for the Dodd Road Culvert repair; waived the three-bid process required by the County's Procurement Policy with only one bid, on the motion by Mr. Maxwell, seconded by Mr. Larko.

C. 2021 & 2022 LMIG – Designation of Funding – The 2021 & 2022 LMIG projects were awarded to Reames and Son Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$2,921,022.86 during the Regular Meeting on September 12, 2022. The Board needed to designate how the projects will be funded for the additional cost. The 2021 LMIG (GDOT \$657,408.65) & 2022 LMIG (GDOT \$722,460.63); totals \$2,100,714.00, which leaves a balance of \$500,000.00 for Brooks County funding. Mrs. Exum made the motion to continue with Reames, readjust the budget to reflect the funds received from GDOT, and correct the under-budget amount of \$500,000, Mr. Maxwell seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mrs. Exum made the motion to approve/designate funding from the SPLOST #6 account for the 2021 LMIG, Mr. Maxwell seconded. Vote was unanimous.

Mrs. Exum made the motion to approve/designate funding from the TSPLOST account for the 2022 LMIG, Mr. Maxwell seconded. Vote was unanimous.

D. Fritzke Farm Lease – First Right of Refusal – County Attorney, Mr. Jason Kemp, presented recommendations to the Board for the first right of refusal presented by the current Lessee for the Fritzke Farm Lease. He advised the Board it can be done as part of the conditions of the lease, they can allow at the end of the next lease; to be a level

playing field. After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Maxwell made the motion to leave the Fritzke Farm Lease as it is, Mr. Cody seconded. Vote was unanimous.

E. ROW Mowing Contract – County Administrator informed the Board she is struggling to get a mowing schedule from the current contractor, Mr. Becton. The ROW contract is \$230,000 annually. The Road Superintendent believes the Road Department can take back the mowing. He has two tractors ready for the roads, will get a third tractor for standby. Mr. Vann will possibly oversee the Road Department team; the team would consist of three employees. The annual fee including salary and a third tractor would be under \$100,000, which is under the current cost of \$230,000 annually.

The Mower Max contract will be added to the October 3, 2022, regular agenda. Mr. Larko recommended authorizing Administrator to negotiate the contract dollar amount, Mr. Maxwell seconded. Vote was unanimous.

2. WORK SESSION

A. Fire Ordinance – Chief Catlett prepared a Fire Ordinance, County Attorney reviewed the Ordinance, and provided a copy for the Board to review. The purpose of the Ordinance is to establish comprehensive rules and regulations for fire prevention and protection for Brooks County. County Attorney will make noted changes/edits to the Ordinance and bring back for review at the regular meeting October 3, 2022.

B. Regular Meeting Agenda Review – October 3, 2022 – The Board reviewed/discussed the agenda for the upcoming regular meeting.

Items added under New Business:

- A. Bobbie Beverly – Zoning Appeal
- B. Mower Max
- C. Finance Software – Edmunds
- D. Board Appointment – Planning Commission

On the motion by Mr. Larko, Mrs. Exum seconded, the Board closed the special called meeting to go into executive session at 7:13 pm.

3. EXECUTIVE SESSION - Personnel

The Board authorized the County Administrator, County Attorney, to meet with Elections Board Chairman, and Elections Supervisor to educate on the process of the open meeting act; and advise Elections Supervisor he is under the supervision of the County Administrator, according to the Board of Elections By-Laws.

The Board went out of executive session and return to the special called/work session on the motion by Mr. Maxwell, seconded by Mr. Larko at 8:13 pm.

4. ADJOURNMENT

After returning to the special called/work session, The Board closed the special called/work session at 8:14 pm, on the motion by Mrs. Exum, seconded by Mr. Maxwell.

Mr. James Maxwell, Vice Chairman

Ms. Jessica McKinney, County Administrator

Ms. Patricia A. Williams, County Clerk