

The Brooks County Board of Commissioners met for a Special Called Meeting/Work Session Monday, June 24, 2024, at 4:15 p.m., at the Brooks County Administrative Building, in the Commissioners Meeting Room, located at 610 South Highland Road, Quitman, GA. Commissioners present were: Mr. Patrick Folsom, Chairman, Mr. James Maxwell, Vice Chairman, Mrs. Myra Exum; and Mr. Willie Cody. Mr. Larko was not present. Others present were Mr. Randall Dowling, Interim Administrator, Ms. Patricia Williams; County Clerk; Ms. Kim Daniels, Human Resources; and Mr. James Burchett, County Attorney, and various residents.

### **SPECIAL CALLED MEETING**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chairman called the meeting to order.
  
- A. **PRAYER/PLEDGE** – Mr. Wall led all in attendance in prayer and pledge of allegiance.
  
- B. **Topics for Motion/Discuss**
  - a. **Award Bid – Emerson Road Storm Drain Project** – On the motion by Mr. Maxwell, the Board unanimously accepted/approved the bid from Bates, Inc. in the amount of \$118,070.00 for the Emerson Road Storm Drain Project, Mr. Cody seconded. The funds will come from the TSPLOST account.
  
  - b. **Brooks County Health Insurance Renewal** – Ms. Kim Daniels, Human Resources, informed the Board that we will continue with our current existing provider for employee health insurance with a 45% increase, originally the increase was 68% and was reduced to 45%; and it will be with Cigna not First Network Health. She was not able to get quotes from other companies due to our high claims and medications. The Board needs to approve/authorize Ms. Daniel to sign the contract and plan for the FY2024-2025 health insurance renewal. The motion by Mr. Cody carried and seconded by Mrs. Exum to approve/authorize Ms. Daniels to sign the contract and plan for the health insurance renewal.
  
  - c. **VC3 – IT Contractor** – Mr. Myreon Guyton and Mrs. Barclay Greer, VC3 Strategic Advisers, presented a service overview of a technological roadmap for Brooks County. The overview maps out tech needs, updates and any IT needed. Mr. Guyton stated they are here to answer any questions and assist in any way. The service overview included VC3 Services and Functions for the Service Advantage Unlimited Plus, which include 24x7 monitoring and incident response services, application support, proactive services, strategic advisor services and project services. The Roadmap Recommendations include server upgrades for three servers running obsolete Windows OS; the project scope has been finalized and presented for approval. There will be no fees for service. They will look at inventory for an opportunity to upgrade and make it more efficient.

A quote was presented for hardware/software for backup, network infrastructure to share data, Dell PowerEdge T350 Server, APC by Schneider Electric Smart-UPS with smartconnect tower, electric UPS Management Adapter, and an Electric Service Pack, total one-time cost \$15,628.00; shipping (\$150.00) included. After installation, the monthly cost will be \$661.25 for three years. Interim Administrator, Mr. Randall Dowling, stated that he would like to see more of the comprehensive plan before making a recommendation. Mr. Dowling and Ms. Daniels will meet with Mr. Guyton and Mrs. Greer for more information and questions.

**d. FEMA Funds – Borrowed from CDs** – The county was approved for a margin loan from AMB Wealth to pay for the debris cleanup/pickup from Hurricane Idalia. GEMA made us aware of it possibly being a 10-week wait for full emergency funding of our CAT-A reimbursement. We have received 90% of the funding from FEMA (\$3,322,997.21) which was expedited; we will receive 10% more. The funds will be deposited back into the accounts with AMB Wealth.

**e. Financing Proceeds from 911 – Available Use** – The county financed the phone and communication project for 911 a few years ago. All the proceeds were not used; there are remaining financing proceeds in the amount of \$163,864.30 available in the name of the county. 911/EMA Director, Ms. Hampton stated that the 911 Center still need work to be done.

### **C. Topics for Discussion**

**a. Town Hall Meeting** – The Board has been discussing conducting a town hall meeting regarding solar. The Solar Moratorium was extended by the Board during the June regular meeting. The date needs to be determined, provide notice to the citizens, stakeholders, and others that are interested. The meeting will be held at the Courthouse due to the expectancy of a large attendance. The purpose of the town hall meeting is to allow citizens an opportunity to comment on their concerns/issues and provide the industry with the opportunity to justify. The Board will discuss the date and time further during the July regular meeting.

**b. Guard Rail Project – Troupeville Road** – The guard rail project was put out for bid; however, no bids were received. Mr. Nick Clark, 12 Stones Engineering, said he would get a quote from Miller Signs. The clipping for the project will be discussed with the Road Department. Chairman requested Mr. Clark to assess Rocky Ford Road for guard rails also.

## **2. WORK SESSION**

**A. Regular Meeting Agenda Review – July 1, 2024** – The Board reviewed/discussed the agenda for the upcoming meeting.

**Under New Business – Added:** Opening of Bids for BCT Gin Road and Surplus Online Auction.

**3. EXECUTIVE SESSION – NONE**

**4. ADJOURNMENT**

The Board adjourned at 5:31pm, on the motion by Mr. Maxwell, seconded by Mr. Cody.

Mr. Patrick Folsom, Chairman

Mr. Randall Dowling, Interim County Administrator

Ms. Patricia A. Williams, County Clerk