

CHARLTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2023
BOC CONFERENCE ROOM
6:00 P.M.

2/2/2023 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Those present were: Chairman Jesse Crews, along with Commissioners Alpha Benefield, James Everett, Drew Jones, and Luke Gowen; County Administrator Hampton Raulerson; County Clerk Jenifer Nobles; HR Clerk Becky Harden; County Attorney John Adams; and visitors as recorded hereafter.

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Commissioner Everett led the Invocation and Pledge to the Flag.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Gowen made motion to adopt the February 2, 2023 Agenda. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Commissioner Gowen made motion to approve January 19, 2023 Minutes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Everett, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

5. DISCUSS USE OF ARPA AND LATCF FUNDS

The Board discussed the use of ARPA and LATCF funds as follows:

Clerk of Court - Wendy Lee and Brad Crane were in attendance to discuss quote for scanning and indexing all of the Deed and Mortgage Books in the Clerk of Courts office. The total for this service is \$437,038.00.

EMS - Bruce Young was in attendance to discuss request for one ambulance, estimated cost is \$250,000.00 and four LUCAs chest compression systems, the total for all four is \$56,744.60.

VFD - C. L. Lewis was present to discuss requests ranging from a new building to new engines. The cost estimate for the Station 4 replacement is low, that amount would only cover the cost of the actual metal building and foundation. The New Engine for Station 4 is the same Engine that the AFG Grant application is requesting (we have already been denied once).

Road Department - Ronnie Pollock was present to discuss request to purchase a Bat Wing mower (Bush Hog 3815 Mower), Boom Mower (Tiger BB-22), three new tractors (New Holland TS6), two mowers (brown Rotary Mower, 2 F-150 pickups, and 2 Dump Trucks (Western Star 47X). Our current Boom Mower is broken, and our Bat Wing Mower is on its last leg, constantly being repaired.

Maintenance Shop - No specific quote for the Maintenance Shop but request is for a new truck. The current truck's transmission is not strong enough to handle the weight of the equipment on the truck, we have replaced it twice. \$100,000.00 is a safe estimate.

Sheriff's Department - Sheriff Robert Phillips was present to discuss request of vehicle cameras and laptops, and body cameras. Total is \$457,961.86.

The Board asked Mr. Raulerson to prepare budget for approval of ARPA and LATCF funds, to be considered at next meeting.

6. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AFG GRANT APPLICATION FOR VFD - \$351,634.53

Commissioner Benefield made motion to approve AFG Grant application for VFD for \$351,634.53, if awarded, will purchase Georgia Bend Engine. The county match will be 5% - \$17,581.73. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gowen, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

7. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CREDIT CARD AGREEMENT BETWEEN CHARLTON COUNTY AND SHERIFF

Commissioner Gowen made motion to approve Credit Card Agreement between Charlton County and the Sheriff. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Everett, Board voted; motion carried unanimously. Card will be used for travel and miscellaneous purchases, not to exceed \$2,500.00. Agreement becomes integral part of Minutes.

8. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ROAD DEPARTMENT PURCHASE ORDER REQUEST

Commissioner Jones made motion to approve Road Department purchase order request for \$7,674.80 to Pritchett Trucking for limerock. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

9. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF 4H RENEWAL CONTRACT

Commissioner Gowen made motion to approve 4H Renewal Contract - the annual agreement for 4H and the County's contribution to the service. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously. Copy of contract becomes integral part of Minutes.

10. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BROADBAND ORDINANCE

Commissioner Benefield made motion to approve first reading of Broadband Ordinance and advertisement for public hearing to be held on Thursday, February 16, 2023, to consider approval of Broadband Ordinance. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gowen, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

11. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF RIVER CORRIDOR ORDINANCE

Several years ago the BOC passed two separate River Corridor ordinances, one for the Satilla and one for the St. Mary's River. They were not passed at the same time. These ordinances were not included in our ordinance book. This needs to be rectified and as we do this, the two ordinances need to be repealed and adopt a single ordinance that will encompass both rivers. This is because the ordinance is identical for both rivers. Commissioner Everett made motion to repeal St. Marys and Satilla River Ordinances and approve 1st reading of River Corridor Ordinance and advertise for Public Hearing, to be held February 16, 2023 to consider approval of combining River Corridor Ordinance for both rivers, a single ordinance that will encompass both rivers. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Benefield, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS: (PLEASE LIMIT TO 3 MINUTES)

The Board discussed with Sheriff Phillips the trash on Highway 121. Ware County Correctional Detention facility will be contacted for hopefully, a regular trash pick-up schedule.

13. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Gowen thanked city and county law enforcement for their effort to protect.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF REQUIRED)

None.

15. NEXT BOC MEETING, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2023 - BOC CONFERENCE ROOM 6:00 P.M.

16. ADJOURN

Commissioner Jones made motion that meeting be adjourned at 7:05 p.m. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gowen, Board voted; motion carried unanimously.

Jesse Crews, Chairman

Jenifer Nobles, County Clerk